

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5351

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5734

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJ: FOLLOW-UP TO DECEMBER 1975 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING

REFS: USNATO 6932 (DTG 181530Z DEC 75 NOTAL), USNATO 7048

(DTG 301400Z DEC 75), USNATO 6844 DTG 121425Z DEC 75, NOTAL,

USNATO 7047 (DTG 301325Z DEC 75 NOTAL), STATE 278388 (DTG

250030Z NOV 75 NOTAL)

SUMMARY: THE FOLLOWING OUTLINES A PROPOSED APPROACH FOR USNATO AND WASHINGTON FOLLOW-UP TO THE DECEMBER 1975 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE SPRING MEETING. WE SEE ESSENTIALLY A SIX-MONTH INTERREGNUM ON BROAD STANDARDIZATION EFFORTS WITHIN NATO AS THE EUROPEANS ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT A COMMON POSITION WITH THE FRENCH, WHICH WILL PROVIDE TIME FOR THE US, AS WELL, TO CONFIDENTIAL

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REFINE AND DEVELOP A MORE STRUCTURED POSITION. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE, PURSUANT TO MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, TO FOCUS OUR EFFORTS NOW ON DEVELOPING SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATIVE TASKS AND ON PREPARING FOR THE PILOT MEETINGS UNDER THE US PROPOSAL FOR

REVISED SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES. IN ADDITION, WE SEE UTILITY IN A LIMITED STOCK-TAKING EXERCISE AS A MEANS OF MONITORING ALLIED ADHERENCE TO 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, AND NEED FOR ADDITIONAL EFFORT DESIGNED TO INCREASE PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR NATO. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT A CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED INITIATIVE IN CAPITALS WILL BE NEEDED TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING AWACS ISSUES, PREFERABLY WELL BEFORE THE SPRING MINISTERIALS. END SUMMARY.

1. STANDARDIZATION/INTEROPERABILITY. THOUGH WE CANNOT YET PROJECT HOW EVENTS WILL UNFOLD AS A RESULT OF THE FRENCH INITIATIVES (WITH THE EUROGROUP MEMBERS ON DISCUSSING INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION AND AT THE NAC ON INTEROPERABILITY), WHAT IS CLEAR IS THAT THE MOEMENTUM WITHIN NATO ON THE LARGER QUESTION OF DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO STANDARDIZATION WILL BE LARGELY STYMIED OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS. EXCEPT FOR SOME IMPORTANT BUT RELATIVELY LOW-PROFILE ACTIVITIES IDENTIFIED BELOW, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD USE THE TIME TO REFINE OUR OWN POSITION FOR THE NEXT ROUND (USNATO 7048).

A. DEFENSE MINISTERS REQUESTED PERMREPS TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A PERIODIC ARMAMENTS PLANNING SYSTEM, AS WELL AS OTHER ISSUES RAISED IN DPC/D(75)25, AND TO MAKE A REPORT AT THE SPRING MINISTERIAL. SEVERAL MINISTERS, HOWEVER, CAUTIONED AGAINST PUSHING BROAD STANDARDIZATION ISSUES, SUCH AS AN ARMAMENTS PLANNING CYCLE, PENDING THE EUROPEAN EFFORT TO WORK OUT THEIR OWN COMMON APPROACH. UNTIL THE EUROPEANS SORT OUT THEIR POSITION WITH THE FRENCH, WE BELIEVE THEY WILL WANT (1) TO CONFINE NATO STANDARDIZATION EFFORTS TO ONGOING CNAD PROJECTS AND INTEROPERABILITY, AND (2) TO HAVE THE NAC SET THE PACE FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ITS AD HOC COMMITTEE (AHC) ON INTEROPERABILITY. NONETHELESS, OTHER FORCES ARE AT WORK ON INTEROPERABILITY, E.G., ONGOING, COORDINATED EFFORTS BY THE MNC'S, IMS, MAS AND THE ASYG FOR DEFENSE SUPPORT IN RESPONSE TO THE SECDEF LETTER THAT FORWARDED THE NUNN STANDARDIZATION REPORT. ALSO, DEFENSE MINISTERS RECEIVED A SUMMARY OF THE MOST IMPORTANT INTEROPERABILITY ISSUES IN ANNEX II OF DPC/D(75)25 AND THE COLLECTION OF MORE DATA IS UNDERWAY WITH A VIEW TO FORMULATING

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SPECIFIC PLANS OF ACTION FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE SPRING MCCS, DPC AND/OR NAC MEETINGS, AS APPROPRIATE.

B. THUS, WE EXPECT THE EUROGROUP TO STRING OUT DISCUSSIONS ON INTEROPERABILITY, WHILE THEY ATTEMPT TO COME TO TERMS SEPARATELY WITH THE FRENCH ON THE LARGER ISSUES OF STANDARDIZATION. WE BELIEVE WE CAN AND SHOULD ACCEPT THIS; HOWEVER, WE WILL WANT TO RESIST ANY EFFORT TO PRECLUDE APPROPRIATE PARALLEL DPC CONSIDERATION OF STANDARDIZATION, BOTH AS A SIGNAL TO THE FRENCH AND AS PROVIDING A Viable ALTERNATIVE TO PROTRACTED INACTION OF THE NAC. WE EXPECT THAT THE SCOPE OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION WILL BE WELL-ENOUGH DEFINED BY SPRING 1976 FOR THE US TO DETERMINE AN APPROPRIATE COURSE OF ACTION.'

2. NATO'S "COOPERATIVE TASK". DURING THE NEXT SIX MONTHS, DPC PERMREPS AND SUBORDINATE PLANNING GROUPS WILL CONSIDER NEW AND TRADITIONAL ASPECTS OF NATO SUPPORTING AND OTHER COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS.

A. FORCE GOALS EXERCISE. THE FOCUS FOR NAO DEFENSE PLANNING, PURSUANT TO DPC/D(71)10 WILL BE TO CONVERT NMA FORCE PROPOSALS INTO ALLIANCE AGREED FORCE GOALS FOR MINISTERIAL APPROVAL NEXT MAY. THE MILITARY COMMITTEE HAS ESTABLISHED A FORCE PROPOSAL WORKING GROUP THAT IS EVALUATING THE MNC FORCE PROPOSALS AGAINST THE CRITERIA OF THE 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE; USDELMC IS REPORTING THE RESULTS OF THE WORKING GROUP'S EFFORTS TO WASHINGTON. CONSEQUENTLY, WE EXPECT THIS YEAR'S FORCE GOALS TO REFLECT THE FORCE PROPOSALS MORE CLOSELY THAN IN THE PAST, WHEN CONSIDERABLE DRC MASSAGING AND ORDERING OF PRIORITIES WERE NECESSARY.

B. SACEUR'S STUDY ON FLEXIBILITY OF NATO FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION. AT THEIR DECEMBER 9 MEETING, DEFENSE MINISTERS NOTED ACEUR'S FLEXIBILITY STUDY AND ASKED THE MILITARY COMMITTEE (MC) AND DPC PERMREPS TO DEVELOP AN ACTION PROGRAM FOR THE REPORT'S PROPOSALS. BOTH SYG LUNS AND CMC SIR PETER HILL-NORTON RECOMMENDED THAT THE REVISED PLANNING PROCEDURES UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE EWG (PARA F BELOW) MIGHT COVER SOME OF THE REPORT'S PROPOSALS. WE WILL RECOMMEND TO THE EWG THAT FLEXIBILITY REPORT PROPOSALS RECEIVE MAJOR EMPHASIS DURING THE FORTHCOMING SPRING REVIEW.

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R 311200Z DEC 75

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C. NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM (AEW&C).  
ON DEC 9 75 DEFENSE MINISTERS ENDORSED ON-GOING NATO AEW&C  
ACTIVITIES AND AGREED TO MAKE A DECISION ON ACQUISITION AT THEIR  
SPRING 1976 MEETING. MOST MAJOR ISSUES (INCLUDING COMMITMENTS  
TO LONG LEAD FUNDING REQUIRED BY JAN 76) HAVE YET TO BE RESOLVED:

- (1) NATO FORCE SIZE AND UK COVERAGE.
  - (2) COMMITMENTS TO ACQUISITION FUNDING AND THE COST  
SHARING THEREOF.
  - (3) COMMITMENTS TO GROUND MODIFICATIONS AND O&M FUNDING,  
AND THE COST SHARING THEREOF.
  - (4) COPRODUCTION AND OFFSET.
  - (5) DEFERRED FUNDING FOR SOME PARTICIPANTS.
- EFFORTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO RESOLVING THESE ISSUES, MOST OF  
WHICH ARE INTER-DEPENDENT, AND TO SECURING CONDITIONAL COMMITMENTS  
ON AS MANY AS POSSIBLE AS FAR IN ADVANCE OF THE MAY MEETING AS  
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POSSIBLE. WE BELIEVE THAT INTENSE, COHERENT, COORDINATED, BI-LATERAL APPROACHES TO INDIVIDUAL NATIONS WILL BE NECESSARY IF  
THE PROGRAM IS NOT TO FOUNDER. THE US SHOULD TRY TO ENLIST  
SEPARATE APPROACHES BY THE FRG AND UK AS WELL.

D. RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION OF DEFENSE TASKS. TO EWG  
WILL CONTINUE TO STUDY THOSE AREAS ALREADY ACCEPTED FOR INTENSIVE  
RATIONALIZATION EFFORTS (CONSOLIDATION OF COMMUNICATIONS, CONSOLIDATION OF TRAINING, WARTIME LOC, AND LOGISTICS) AND EXAMINE POSSIBLE  
NEW AREAS FOR STUDY. AT THEIR DEC 9 MEETING, DEFENSE MINISTERS (1)  
AGREED TO INSTRUCT THEIR STAFFS TO PUT FORWARD SPECIFIC  
RATIONALIZATION PROPOSITIONS FOR EXAMINATION, (2) NOTED ONGOING  
EWG INVESTIGATIONS OF REVISED PLANNING PROCEDURES THAT MIGHT  
FACILITATE THE TRANSLATION OF GENERAL RATIONALIZATION RECOMMENDATIONS INTO DETAILED MULTILATERAL PROPOSALS FOR NATIONAL  
PLANNING TARGETS (PARA F BELOW), AND (3) TOOK SPECIFIC NOTE OF  
THE NEED TO RATIONALIZE LOGISTICS. AS THE EWG DEVELOPS ITS  
REPORT FOR THE SPRING MINISTERIAL, WE EXPECT THAT RECOMMENDATIONS  
WILL BE AVAILABLE ON CONSOLIDATED JOINT JET PILOT TRAINING.  
WE ALSO EXPECT SOME PRELIMINARY PROGRESS IN LOGISTICS.

E. CIVIL-MILITARY AVIATION PLANNING. AT THE JANUARY 15,  
1975 NAC MEETING, THE US PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSED THAT  
NATO BEGIN IDENTIFYING AND EXAMINING ACTIONS NATIONS SHOULD TAKE  
INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY ON IMPROVING AIRLIFT CAPABILITY.  
SACEUR HAS SUBMITTED HIS INITIAL ASSESSMENT, WHICH FINDS A NEED  
FOR CIVIL INTRA THEATER AIRLIFT TO SUPPORT MILITARY OPERATIONS  
DURING CRISES AND WAR. WE EXPECT SACEUR'S FINAL ASSESSMENT TO  
REACH NATO HQ. IN FEBRUARY 1976. WE BELIEVE THE NAC/DPC SHOULD  
CALL FOR A STATUS REPORT IN FEBRUARY ON CIVIL-MILITARY AVIATION  
PLANNING IN NATO AND INVITE THE IS TO PREPARE A CONSOLIDATED  
REPORT FOR MINISTERS TO CONSIDER IN THE SPRING.

F. US PROPOSAL FOR REVISED SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES.  
UNLIKE DEFENSE REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR FORCE CAPABILITIES, THE

SPRING REVIEWS HAVE NOT PROVIDED SPECIFIC "COOPERATIVE" PLANNING TARGETS OR ADEQUATE PROCEDURES TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF TARGERS SYSTEMATICALLY. CONSEQUENTLY, THE US RECOMMENDED THAT THE EWG DEVELOP EXPANDED, REGIONALLY ORIENTED SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES THAT WOULD FACILITATE A MORE COHERENT, ACTION-ORIENTED APPROACH TO COLLECTIVE PLANNING FOR RATIONALIZATION, FLEXIBILITY, SHORT-TERM STANDARDIZATION MEASURES (PRIMARILY LOW-COST INTEROPERABILITY "FIXES") AND NATO SUPPORTING PROGRAMS. IN OUR VIEW, SUCH PROCEDURES SHOULD EMPHASIZE:

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(1) DEVELOPMENT, ON A REGIONAL BASIS, OF PLANNING TARGETS FOR COOPERATION AMONG ALLIES,  
(2) COMMITMENT BY ALLIES TO IMPLEMENT TARGERS, AND  
(3) ANNUAL FOLLOW-UP REVIEWS (UTILIZING FALL MULTILATERAL REVIEWS TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE) TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION.  
EWG REPS AGREED TO A PILOT PROJECT THIS SPRING. WE WILL ASK THAT THE EWG, DRAWING FROM THE PILOT PROJECT, DEVELOP COMPREHENSIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MORE SYSTEMATIC SPRING REVIEW PROCEDURES THAT MINISTERS CAN CONSIDER.

3. C"CLOSING OUT" THE 1975 DEFENSE REVIEW. THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE DRC WILL BE TRILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL REVIEWS OF US AND TURKISH FORCE PLANS AS REFLECTED IN RESPONSES TO DPC (75). REGARDING THE US RESPONSE, WRITTEN REPLIES TO IS QUESTIONS (USNATO 6844 AND USNATO 7047) WOULD HELP THE US TRILATERAL REVIEWS RUN SMOOTHLY. FOLLOWING THE REVIEWS, THE IS WILL REVISE THE "INTERIM GENERAL REPORT" (DRC/D(75)28), WHICH MINISTERS CONSIDERED, INTO A MORE COMPREHENSIVE GENERAL REPORT FOR PERMREPS' APPROVAL. THE DRC WILL REVIEW THE REVISED REPORT BEFORE IT PROCEEDS TO PERMREPS, WHICH WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INCLUDE APPROPRIATE COMMENTS ON ANTI-ARMOR, AS SUGGESTED BY WASHINGTON. THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF HAS CIRCULATED THE LONG-AWAITED REPORT ON ANTI-ARMOR (AC281-N(75)R -- POUCHE), WHICH MIGHT BE SUITABLE FOR INCLUSION, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, EITHER IN OR AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE GENERAL REPORT. WE WILL EXPLORE THESE ALTERNATIVES FURTHER WITH THE IS BEFORE THE REVISED GENERAL REPORT IS COMPLETED. IN ANY EVENT, WE HOPE TO GET THE ANTI-ARMOR REPORT BEFORE PERMREPS; EITHER AS ABOVE OR BY SUGGESTING THAT THE EWG FORWARD IT SEPARATELY.

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4. MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE STOCKTAKING. AS AN ADJUNCT TO ONGOING DPC WORK, WE SEE UTILITY IN A LIMITED STOCKTAKING EXERCISE DURING THE SPRING OF 1976, AND A SOMEWHAT MORE COMPREHENSIVE EXERCISE DURING THE FALL, ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE GOALS SET OUT IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1975 ARE BEING FULFILLED. ANALYSIS OF THE 1975 NATO DEFENSE REVIEW AND SLOW PROGRESS ON COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS SUGGEST THAT SUCH A STOCKTAKING EXERCISE MIGHT PROVE HELPFUL IN MAINTAINING THE IMPETUS OF THE LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT AND IN DRAWING MINISTERIAL ATTENTION TO TRENDS IN ALLIANCE DEFENSE. WE INTEND TO EXPLORE THIS INFORMALLY WITH THE IS, SUGGESTING THAT A STOCKTAKING EXERCISE COVER FORCE CAPABILITIES, COOPERATIVE/SUPPORTING PROGRAMS, AND RESOURCES AND THAT A SCENARIO BE DEVELOPED ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

A. DURING SPRING 1976 THE DRC WOULD DRAFT AND PERMREPS APPROVE A SHORT "CATALOGUE-TYPE" REPORT SUMMARIZING FORCE CAPABILITIES  
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IMPROVEMENTS (POSSIBLY BY REFERRING TO THE "GENERAL REPORT" OF THE 1975 DEFENSE REVIEW), ONGOING COOPERATIVE AND SUPPORTING PROGRAMS (INCLUDING THE REGIONAL SPRING REVIEW "PILOT PROJECT", DPC AND MC WORK ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FLEXIBILITY STUDY, EWG-Sponsored RATIONALIZATION/SPECIALIZATION ACTIVITIES, DPC AND NAC WORK ON STANDARDIZATION/INTEROPERABILITY AND NATO COMMOR PROGRAMS), AND "THE RECORD" ON NATIONAL COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES TO DEFENSE FROM JULY 1975 TO APRIL 1976. THIS SHORT REPORT WOULD BE LESS THAN THE MORE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL REVIEW OF ALL NATO DEFENSE ACTIVITY SUGGESTED IN STATE 278388 BUT WOULD POINT IN THAT DIRECTION.

B. AT THE SPRING 1976 MEETING, MINISTERS WOULD BE INVITED TO NOTE THIS REPORT AND DIRECT PERMREPS TO PREPARE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE STOCKTAKING REPORT FOR THEIR FALL 1976 MEETING.

C. THE MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, TO BE DRAFTED BY THE DRC, WOULD USE PARAS 59 THROUGH 76 OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1975 AS A

METERSTICK FOR EVALUATING PERFORMANCE IN FORCE CAPABILITIES IMPROVEMENTS, COOPERATIVE/SUPPORTING PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS, AND RESOURCES BY DRAWING ON: THE RESULTS OF THE 1975 AND 1976 DEFENSE REVIEWS, THE APPROVED FORCE GOALS 1977-82, MEASURABLE REAL PROGRESS MADE IN COOPERATIVE AND SUPPORTING PROGRAMS, AND TRENDS IN RESOURCE APPLICATION. THIS REPORT, TO BE APPROVED BY MINISTERS, WOULD INCLUDE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS BASED ON THE ABOVE STOCKTAKING ANALYSIS FOR THE PREPARATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977. THE "INSTRUCTIONS" WOULD BE GENERALLY WORDED SO THAT IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY TO UNDERTAKE A FULL "KEY ELEMENTS" EXERCISE, E.G., FALL 1974 EXERCISE, BUT WOULD GIVE SUFFICIENT GUIDANCE FOR DRAFTING MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE 1977 SO THAT PROPER EMPHASIS WOULD BE GIVEN TO:

- (1) FORCE CAPABILITIES: MODERNIZED RAPILDY ENOUGH VIS-A-VIS THE THREAT?
- (2) COOPERATIVE/SUPPORTING PROGRAMS: ARE PROCEDURES ADEUQATE FOR IMPROVING COST-EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH COOPERATION?
- (3) RESOURCES: IS THE 1975 FORMULA WORKABLE - DOES IT PLACE TOO MUCH EMPHASIS ON TOTALS AND NOT ENOUGH ON QUALITY OF DEFENSE SPENDING? SHOULD IT BE CHANGED?

##### 5. GAINING SUPPORT FROM PUBLICS AND PARLIAMENTS

A. THE NEED FOR GREATER PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR NATO DEFENSE HAS BEEN A RECURRING THEME STRESSED BY US SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE AT DPC MINISTERIAL MEETINGS. THIS NEED WAS A KEY CONFIDENTIAL

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FACTOR BEHIND THE SUCCESSFUL US PUSH TO INCORPORATE A LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT IN THE 1975 MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE ("TO ENSURE THAT NATO DEFENSE IS CARRIED OUT IN A MANNER ACCEPTABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTS") AND TO HAVE NATO PUBLISH AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. OUR ALLIES WENT ALONG WITH THE UN-CLASSIFIED VERSION RELUCTANTLY, FEARING THAT IT WOULD PROVOKE UN-WANTED DEBATE. HOWEVER, EXPERIENCE TO DATE HAS SHOWN THE UNCLASSIFIED MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE TO BE THE KOHOUTEK COMENT OF NATO PUBLIC RELEASES.

B. IN ADDITION TO THE US, THE NETHERLANDS HAS FREQUENTLY VOICED THE NEED FOR INCREASED PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR DEFENSE SPENDING, AND AT THE DECEMBER 1975 MINISTERIAL MEETING, RICHARD-SON(CANADA), LEBER(FRG), AND VANDEN BOEYNANTS(BELGIUM) HIT THE SAME THEME AFTER HILL-NORTON'S RESUME ON DEC 9. LEBER REFERRED TO THE POST-HELSINKI IDEOLOGICAL ONSLAUGHT FROM THE EAST, WHICH COULD UNDERMINE THE STRENGTH OF THE ALLIANCE. VENDEN BOEYNANTS SAID THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT DISCUSSION FOR MINISTERS CONCERNED THE SEARCH FOR MEANS TO MAKE THE REALITY OF THE GROWING SOVIET THREAT UNDERSTOOD IN ALLIANCE COUNTRIES.

C. WE BELIEVE THAT RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS MAY BE HEIGHTENING WESTERN PUBLIC AWARENESS THAT DETENTE HAS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DISSIPATED TENSIONS. AMONG THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE: POST-PARTUM DEPRESSION FOLLOWING THE BIRTH OF CSCE, SOVIET INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA, SOVIET DENAIL OF AN EXIT VISA TO SAKHAROV. THUS, WESTERN PUBLICS AND PARLIAMENTS MAY BE MORE OPEN TO

INFORMED DEBATE ON THE ROLE OF DEFENSE CAPABILITIES IN THE PROCESS OF DETENTE.

D. THOUGH WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ALLIANCE LEADERS SHOULD EMBARK ON AN IDEOLOGICAL COUNTERATTACK, THEY COULD AT LEAST UNDER-TAKE TO STIFFEN THE WEST'S BACKBONE AND LIMIT DAMAGE TO DEFENSE BUDGETS. WE BELIEVE A USEFUL FIRST STEP COULD BE A REINFORCED DPC TO GIVE THE SUBJECT THE ATTENTION IT REQUIRES, TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF A COORDINATED APPROACH, AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THEMES. A TEAM FROM WASHINGTON MIGHT SHARE LESSONS LEARNED IN ADVANCING DEFENSE BUDGETS THROUGH CONGRESS AND TO SUGGEST HOW THE ALLIANCE COULD ASSIST THE US ADMINISTRATION IN THIS EFFORT.

WASHINGTON MAY ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER, AT SOME POINT IN DPC DELIBERATIONS, THE PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE NORTH ATLANTIC ASSEMBLY WOULD BE DESIRABLE.

E. SUCH REINFORCED DPC MEETINGS COULD ALSO HAVE THE ALUTARY

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EFFECT OF GIVING A THOROUGH AIRING TO THE PROPOSITION ELABORATED IN THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION THAT EACH ALLIANCE MEMBER "SHOULD UNDERTAKE, ACCORDING TO THE ROLE IT HAS ASSUMED IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE ALLIANCE, ITS PROPER SHARE OF MAINTAINING THE SECURITY OF ALL." DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT COULD SERVE TO REINFORCE THAT PORTION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE STOCKTAKING (PARA 4, ABOVE) ASSOCIATED WITH RESOURCE GUIDANCE.

6. IN SUM, WE SEE OPPORTUNITIES IN DPC WORK OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS FOR ADVANCING ONGOING US INITIATIVES (AWACS, SPRING REVIEW, IMPROVED FORCE GOALS RESPONSIVE TO MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE) AND TO BEGIN SOME NEW INITIATIVES, MODEST (MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE STOCKTAKING) AND MORE FAR-REACHING (GAINING SUPPORT FROM PUBLIC AND PARLIAMENTS). IN ADDITION, SOME REAL CHALLENGES TO ALLIANCE MILITARY CAPABILITIES WILL PROBABLY EMERGE IN THE FORM OF FURTHER UK DEFENSE CUTS, PORTUGUESE NEED FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE, UNRAVELLING THE AMBIGUITIES ASSOCIATED WITH ITALIAN RESTRUCTURING AND "PROMOTIONAL" LAWS, AND THE POSSIBILITY FOR FURTHER EROSION OF THE DUTCH DEFENSE EFFORT. BASED ON A LESS THAN FAIL-SAFE PERSPECTIVE, WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO CHART A GENERAL COURSE ON WHICH TO PROCEED DURING THE COMING MONTHS, WHICH WE WILL ATTEMPT TO REFINE AS WORK PROGRESSES AND EVENTS UNFOLD.BRUCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 18 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NATO07061  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751290/abbrznpp.tel  
**Line Count:** 423  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 8  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** USNATO 6932 (DTG 181530Z DEC 75 NOTAL), USNATO 7048 (DTG 301400Z DEC 75), USNATO 6844 DTG 121425Z DEC 75, NOTAL, USNATO 7047 (DTG 301325Z DEC 75 NOTAL), STATE 278388 (DTG 250030Z NOV 75 NOTAL)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GarlanWA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; RELEASED <22 SEP 2003 by greeneet>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2003 by GarlanWA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FOLLOW-UP TO DECEMBER 1975 DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING  
**TAGS:** MPOL, NATO, DPC  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS  
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Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006